

RE application of N. KOFUJI et al
 Serial No.: 09/363,191

Group Art Unit: 1763

Filed: July 29, 1999

Examiner: Alejandro-Mulero

For: DRY ETCHING APPARATUS AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A
 SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

| | (COL. 1) | | (COL. 2) | | (COL. 3) |
|--|----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|---|---------------|
| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | | Highest No. Previously Paid For | | Present Extra |
| Total | * 9 | Minus | ** 20 | = | 0 |
| Indep. | * 2 | Minus | *** 3 | = | 0 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claims | | | | | |

SMALL ENTITY

| Rate | Additional Fee |
|-------|----------------|
| x 9 | \$ |
| x 42 | \$ |
| + 140 | \$ |
| Total | \$ |

OR

OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY

| Rate | Additional Fee |
|-------|----------------|
| x 18 | \$ 0 |
| x 84 | \$ 0 |
| + 280 | \$ 0 |
| Total | \$ 0 |

OR

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write '0' in Col. 3.
- ** If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write '20' in this space.
- *** If the 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write '3' in this space.
- The 'Highest Number Previously Paid For' (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Col. 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 50-1417 in the amount of \$ _____.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached in payment of: _____.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.
- ☒ Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☒ Any Extension of Time fees that are necessary, which are hereby requested if necessary.

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Date: January 24, 2003

By:

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

N. KOFUJI et al

Serial No. 09/363,191

Group Art Unit: 1763

Filed: July 29, 1999

Examiner: L. Alejandro Milero

For: DRY ETCHING APPARATUS AND A METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respond to the Office Action dated October 24,
2002 as follows.

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 34-36 are pending. Each of these claims stands rejected as either being anticipated by Yokogawa et al (claims 1-2, 6 and 34-36) or as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yokogawa et al (claims 4 and 8), or still further unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Yokogawa et al in view of Nakano et al (claim 9). Reconsideration of the rejection is requested for the following reasons.

The Examiner relies upon Yokogawa et al for disclosing a microstrip antenna 308 having a discoidal form. Applicants'

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attorney requested an interview with the Examiner to discuss how Yokogawa is being interpreted as setting forth a microchip antenna having a discoidal form. Applicants interpret Yokogawa et al differently from the way in which the reference is applied in the Office Action. However, the Examiner requested that Applicants provide a written record for the Examiner's consideration rather than discuss the rejection in an interview. Accordingly, Applicants' response to the rejections based on Yokogawa et al are as follows.

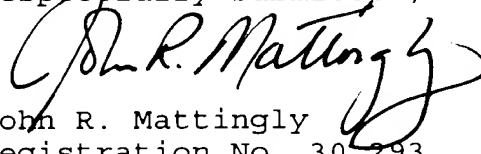
Referring to Fig. 8 of the reference, two disks 306 and 306' are shown. These are dielectric plates formed of quartz as explained in col. 12, lines 26-27 of the reference. Further, dielectric plate 306' is a support plate on which is formed an electromagnetic wave radiation antenna 308 divided into four parts and connected with four microstrip-lines 307. See col. 12, lines 33-36 of Yokogawa et al. Therefore, the antenna of Yokogawa cannot be considered to be the equivalent of the microstrip antenna claimed by Applicants in independent claims 1 and 34, which is claimed as comprising a discoidal electrode.

In particular, Applicants show a dry etching apparatus in Fig. 1 that includes a discoidal electrode 3 shown in detail in Fig. 2 as being formed on a dielectric plate 2. The antenna 3 of the present invention, therefore, is discoidal

whereas the antenna 307, 308 of Yokogawa et al is not discoidal, but rather formed of multiple strips connected together through microstrip lines as shown in Fig. 8 of the reference. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejections based on Yokogawa et al is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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